over loaded commercial vehicles cause premature failure of the pavement necessitating large investment in pavement rehabilitation.

World Bank funds for the betterment of roads in the Country

2456. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to allot funds for the betterment of roads in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to utilise these funds; and

(d) how much of these funds will be allotted to various state Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Constitutionally, the Central Government is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways in the country and all other roads are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments concerned.

So far as development of National Highways is concerned, two loan agreements have been signed with the World Bank in September, 1985 and June, 1992 for US $ 200 million and US $ 306 million respectively. The first loan agreement included development of about 496 kms of National Highways in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The loan has been closed on 31-12-1993. The second loan agreement includes development of about 290 kms of National Highways in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra and West Bengal and reconstruction of six bridges on State roads in Orissa. The closing date of the loan is 30-6-2001.

Shortfall in road development target

2457. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable shortfall in road development targets fixed for 20 years (1981—2001) road development plan for the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of villages in the country that have all weather roads with and without adequate cross drainage structures; and

(d) whether Government are formulating the perspective of 20 years road development plan for the year 2001 to 2021 to meet the future demands for movement of traffic and to provide a modern road network in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Members are referring to targets indicated in the 20 year (1981—2001) Road Development Plan drawn by the Indian Roads Congress which is a registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. However, the recommendations/targets inunciated in this Plan documents are basically recommendatory in nature and are intended to serve as reference for the formulation of the Five Year Plans etc. both at Central/State level. These targets have not been achieved mainly due to constraints of funds.

(c) Constitutionally, the Government of India are primarily concerned with development and maintenance of National Highways only. Construction/development etc. of other roads including village roads come within the purview of the State activities, and State Governments are, therefore, essentially concerned in the matter.

(d) There has been no such move at this point of time.

Capacity of Major Ports

2458. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the existing capacity of the major ports in the country and how much of the additional capacity is proposed to be added by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan and what cost;

(b) how much annual traffic was handled by the ports during the last three years;

(c) in how many cases the ships had to wait at the ports for unloading for an abnormally long period during each of the last three years;

(d) what steps have the Government taken or propose to take to obviate the chances of abnormal delay in the unloading of the ships at the major ports and what is the result of these steps;

(e) whether privatisation has been conceived in the form of leasing out of various assets and facilities like berths, jetties and cargo handling equipments; and

(f) if so, what are the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As on 31-2-1994, all Major Ports had an aggregate capacity of approx. 172.6 million